



Robert Greene Sterne  
Edward J. Kessler  
Jorge A. Goldstein  
David K.S. Cornwell  
Robert W. Esmond  
Tracy-Gene G. Durkin  
Michele A. Cimbala  
Michael B. Ray  
Robert E. Sokohl  
Eric K. Steffe  
Michael Q. Lee  
Steven R. Ludwig  
John M. Covert  
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Robert C. Millonig  
Lawrence B. Bugaisky  
Donald J. Featherstone  
Michael V. Messinger

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Heidi L. Kraus  
Edward W. Yee  
Albert L. Ferro\*  
Donald R. Banowitz  
Peter A. Jackman  
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Kendrick P. Patterson  
Vincent L. Capuano  
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Eldora Ellison Floyd  
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Christine M. Lhulier  
Rae Lynn Pengaman  
Jane Shershenovich\*  
Lawrence J. Carroll\*  
George S. Bardmesser  
Daniel A. Klein\*  
Rodney G. Maze  
Jason D. Eisenberg  
Michael A. Specht\*  
Andrea J. Kamage  
Tracy L. Muller\*  
Jon E. Wright\*

LuAnne M. Yuricek\*  
**Registered Patent Agents\***  
Karen R. Markowicz  
Nancy J. Leith  
Ann E. Summerfield  
Helene C. Carlson  
Gaby L. Longworth  
Matthew J. Dowd  
Aaron L. Schwartz  
Angelique G. Uy  
Mary B. Tung  
Katrina Y. Pei  
Bryan L. Skelton  
Robert A. Schwartzman  
John J. Figueroa  
Timothy A. Doyle  
Jennifer R. Mahalingappa

Teresa A. Colella  
Jeffrey S. Lundgren  
Victoria S. Rutherford

**Of Counsel**  
Kenneth C. Bass III  
Lisa A. Dunner  
Evan R. Smith

\*Admitted only in Maryland  
\*Admitted only in Virginia  
\*Practice Limited to  
Federal Agencies

May 20, 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: **Submission of Proprietary Materials under MPEP § 724.02**  
In re application of: NELSON et al.  
Appl. No. 09/841,187  
Filed: April 25, 2001  
For: **Method and System for Improving Focus Accuracy  
in a Lithography System**  
Art Unit: 2851  
Examiner: Esplin, D.B.  
Atty Docket: 1857.0350000

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MAY 20 2003  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

Sir:

Applicants are submitting the attached proprietary document entitled "Advanced Focus System Development Task, Proposal Submitted in response to Advanced Lithography SOL BAA 99-14, Silicon Valley Group, Inc." (hereafter referred to as the "Proprietary Document") under MPEP § 724.02. The Proprietary Document is being submitted to ensure that Applicants meet their duty of disclosure under 37 CFR § 1.56.

Applicants request that the Examiner indicate in the next Office Action, whether the Proprietary Document *is* or *is not* found to be important to a reasonable examiner in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent, as is required by MPEP § 724.04(a). A Petition for Expungement is filed herewith. If the Examiner finds that the Proprietary Document *is not* important to a reasonable examiner in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent, then Applicants ask that the proprietary document be expunged.

Applicants have redacted specific dollar amounts and names. Applicants have also redacted specific portions of the Proprietary Document that do not relate to the patent application at issue.

Commissioner for Patents  
May 20, 2003  
Page 2

If the Examiner has any questions, or believes for any reason that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned, or Donald J. Featherstone (Registration No. 33,876), at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

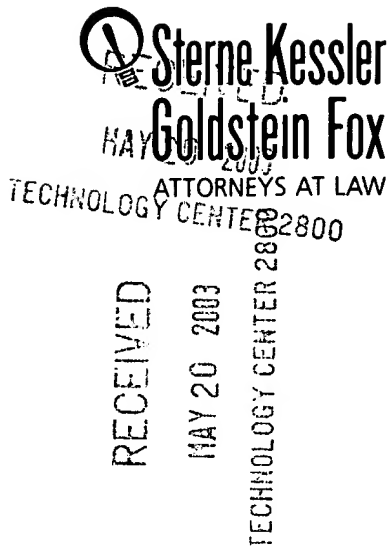


Edward W. Yee  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 47,294

DJF/EWY/acr

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May 20, 2003

**WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:**

(202) 772-8822

**INTERNET ADDRESS:**

EYEE@SKGF.COM

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

*Via Hand Carry to*  
**Examiner David B. Esplin**  
**Art Unit 2851**

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application  
Appl. No. 09/841,187; Filed: April 25, 2001  
For: **Method and System for Improving Focus Accuracy  
in a Lithography System**  
Inventors: NELSON *et al.*  
Our Ref: 1857.0350000

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Fee Transmittal Form (PTO/SB/17);
2. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS);
3. List of cited documents on Form PTO-1449 (1 sheet);
4. A copy of each document cited on Form PTO-1449 (1 document), inside envelope labeled in accordance with MPEP § 724.02;
5. Transmittal Letter to Commissioner of Patents Regarding Submission of Proprietary Material Under MPEP § 724.02;
6. Petition for Expungement of Information or Copy of Papers in Application File Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.59;

Commissioner for Patents  
May 20, 2003  
Page 2

7. Credit Card Payment Form PTO-2038; and
8. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Edward W. Yee  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 47,294

DJF/EWY/acr  
Enclosures

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# FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2003

Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

**TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$130.00)**

## Complete if Known

Application Number	09/841,187
Filing Date	April 25, 2001
First Named Inventor	Michael L. NELSON
Examiner Name	Esplin, D.B.
Group Art Unit	2851
Attorney Docket No.	1857.0350000

## METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)

☐ Check ☒ Credit card ☐ Money Order ☒ Other\*\* ☐ None  
\*\* Charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayments in the fees or fee calculations of Parts 1, 2 and 3 below to Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

☐ Deposit Account  
Deposit Account Number 19-0036

Deposit Account Name: Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox P.L.L.C.

The Commissioner is authorized to: (check all that apply)

☒ Charge fee(s) indicated below ☐ Credit any over payments  
☐ Charge any additional fee(s) during the pendency of this application  
☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee to the above-identified deposit account.

## FEE CALCULATION (continued)

### 3. ADDITIONAL FEES

Large Entity Small Entity

Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1051	130	2051	65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
1502	50	2052	25	Surcharge-late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
1053	130	1053	130	Non-English specification	
1812	2,520	1812	2,520	For filing a request for <i>ex parte</i> reexamination	
1804	920*	1804	920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
1805	1,840*	1805	1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
1251	110	2251	55	Extension for reply within first month	
1252	410	2252	205	Extension for reply within second month	
1253	930	2253	465	Extension for reply within third month	
1254	1,450	2254	725	Extension for reply within fourth month	
1255	1,970	2255	985	Extension for reply within fifth month	
1401	320	2401	160	Notice of Appeal	
1402	320	2402	160	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
1403	280	2403	140	Request for oral hearing	
1451	1,510	1451	1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
1452	110	2452	55	Petition to revive - unavoidable	
1453	1,300	2453	650	Petition to revive - unintentional	
1501	1,300	2501	650	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
1502	470	2502	235	Design issue fee	
1503	630	2503	315	Plant issue fee	
1460	130	1460	130	Petitions to the Commissioner	\$130.00
1807	50	1807	50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)	
1806	180	1806	180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
8021	40	8021	40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
1809	750	2809	375	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))	
1810	750	2810	375	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b))	
1801	750	2801	375	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	
1802	900	1802	900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	

Other fee (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

\* Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid SUBTOTAL (3) (\$) 130.00

## FEE CALCULATION

### 1. BASIC FILING FEE

Large Entity Small Entity

Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1001	750	2001	375	Utility filing fee	
1002	330	2002	165	Design filing fee	
1003	520	2003	260	Plant filing fee	
1004	750	2004	375	Reissue filing fee	
1105	160	2005	80	Provisional filing fee	

SUBTOTAL (1) (\$) 0.00

### 2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE

	Extra	Fee from below	Fee Paid
Total Claims _____ - 20** = _____ X _____ = _____			
Indep. Claims _____ - 3** = _____ X _____ = _____			
Multiple Dependent _____ = _____			

Large Entity Fee Code	Large Entity Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fee Description
1202	18	2202	9	Claims in excess of 20
1201	84	2201	42	Independent claims in excess of 3
1203	280	2203	140	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
1204	84	2204	42	**Reissue independent claims over original patent
1205	18	2205	9	**Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent

SUBTOTAL (2) (\$) 0.00

\*\*or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissue, see above

## SUBMITTED BY

Name (Print/Type)	Edward W. Yee	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	47,294	Telephone	202-371-2600
Signature	<i>Edward W. Yee</i>	Date	May 20, 2003		

Complete (if applicable)

**WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.**

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.17 and 1.27. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.  
SKGF\_DC1:13291.1